LIGHTNING COMICS PRESENTS

WAR PARTY AND DREADWOLF

1 MAY $3.50 $4.75 CAN

COLLECTOR'S 1ST ISSUE!

LIGHTNING COMICS PROUDLY PRESENTS...

LIGHTNING COMICS PRESENTS #1

On behalf of **Lightning Comics** and the **Lightning Comics Presents Teams**, **thank you** for purchasing this copy of **LIGHTNING COMICS PRESENTS #1!** Lightning Comics was born out of the desire to bring **you**, the **comic book enthusiast**, the **highest quality entertainment** as well as **highly sought after modern collectibles**. Lightning Comics will **never** produce more than **250,00 copies** of any **first printing**. We pledge **not to reprint** any book until **two years** from the date of first printing.

This issue of **LIGHTNING COMICS PRESENTS #1** contains the **first solo stories** of **WAR PARTY** and **DREADWOLF**. During 1994, Lightning Comics plans to release **several new ongoing mini-series** we're confident you will **love! WAR PARTY** will begin in July, **DREADWOLF** begins in August, and **DEATHMARK** debuts in October!

Again, our sincere thanks for purchasing this copy of **LIGHTNING COMICS PRESENTS #1**. **If you like this comic**, we hope you will support our young company by telling **every dealer you know** how much you **enjoy Lightning Comics**. By **advance ordering** your **Lightning books** with your **favorite dealer** you'll be **certain** to get **future copies** of **Lightning Comics!**

With **your support**, Lightning Comics will **"take the comics industry by storm!"**

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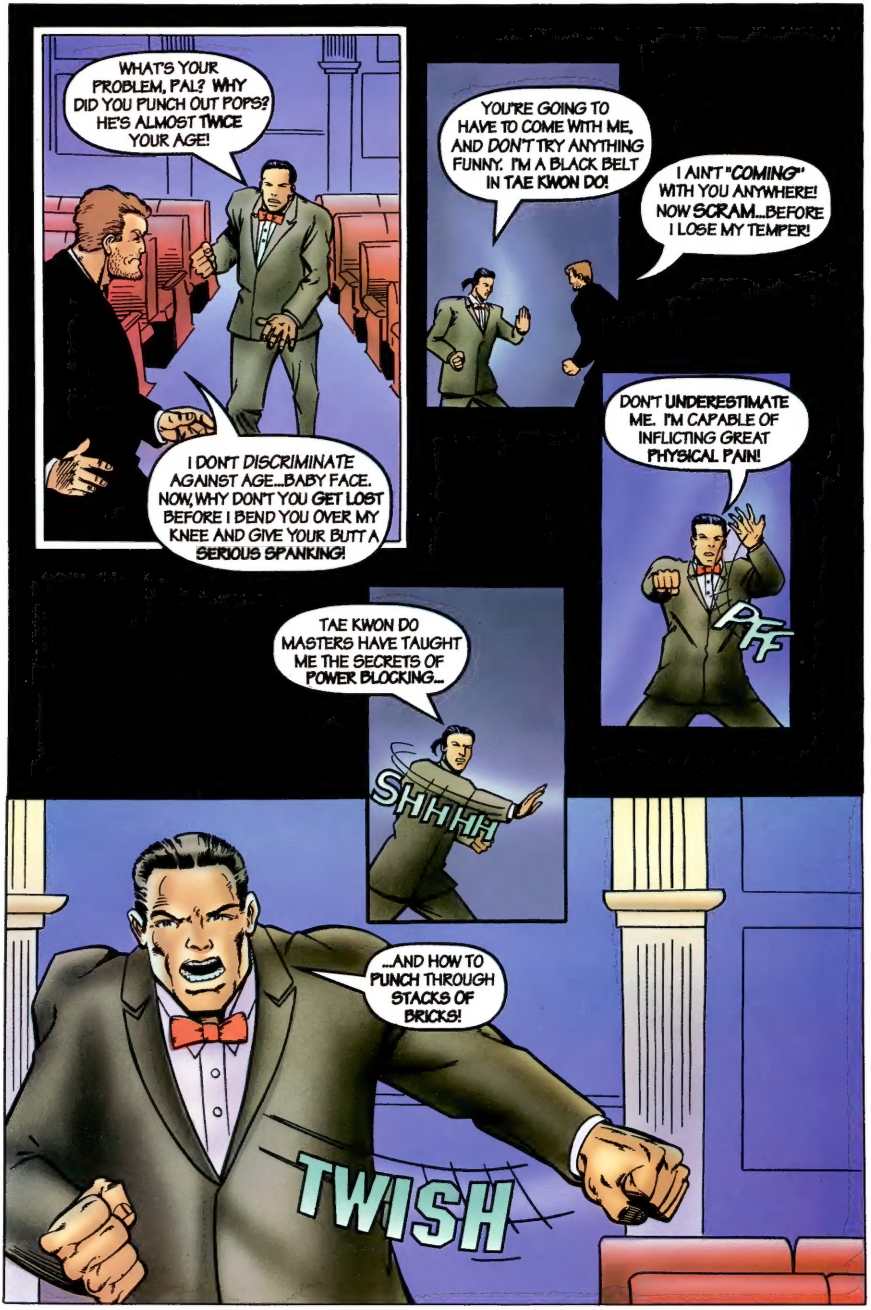
LIGHTNING COMICS PRESENTS...
WAR PARTY
"I DON'T KNOW WHICH IS MORE OF A PAIN IN THE BUTT...HAVING TO WEAR THIS MONKEY SUIT, OR HAVIN' TA LISTEN TO THAT FAT COW MOO?! IT'S UNBELIEVABLE...SOME OF THE CRAP I HAVE TO PUT UP WITH JUST TA GET A PAYCHECK."
"I'LL BE THE FIRST TO ADMIT, THIS AIN'T THE MOST PRESTIGIOUS WAY TO MAKE A LIVING, BUT...IT'S MY JOB. AND I LOVE MY WORK. THAT CHELTON GUY DOWN THERE...HE WON'T KNOW WHAT HIT HIM!"
IN "TRIPLE CROSSED!"
"JUST LOOK AT THAT DORK...HE HAS NO IDEA WHO HE OWES MONEY TO! IF YOU'RE GONNA' GAMBLE A MILLION DOLLARS AND LOSE, ONE WAY OR ANOTHER...YOU'RE GONNA'
PAY THE PRICE!"
STEVEN ZYSKOWSKI PLOTS & SCRIPTS
TERRAL LAWRENCE PENCILS
DAVID MOWRY INKS
JAMES M. ANDERSON LETTERS
GREG WEED, BRIAN ROHRBECK COLORS
JOSEPH C. ZYSKOWSKI EDITOR
STEVEN ZYSKOWSKI MARKETING
CREATED BY JOSEPH A. ZYSKOWSKI

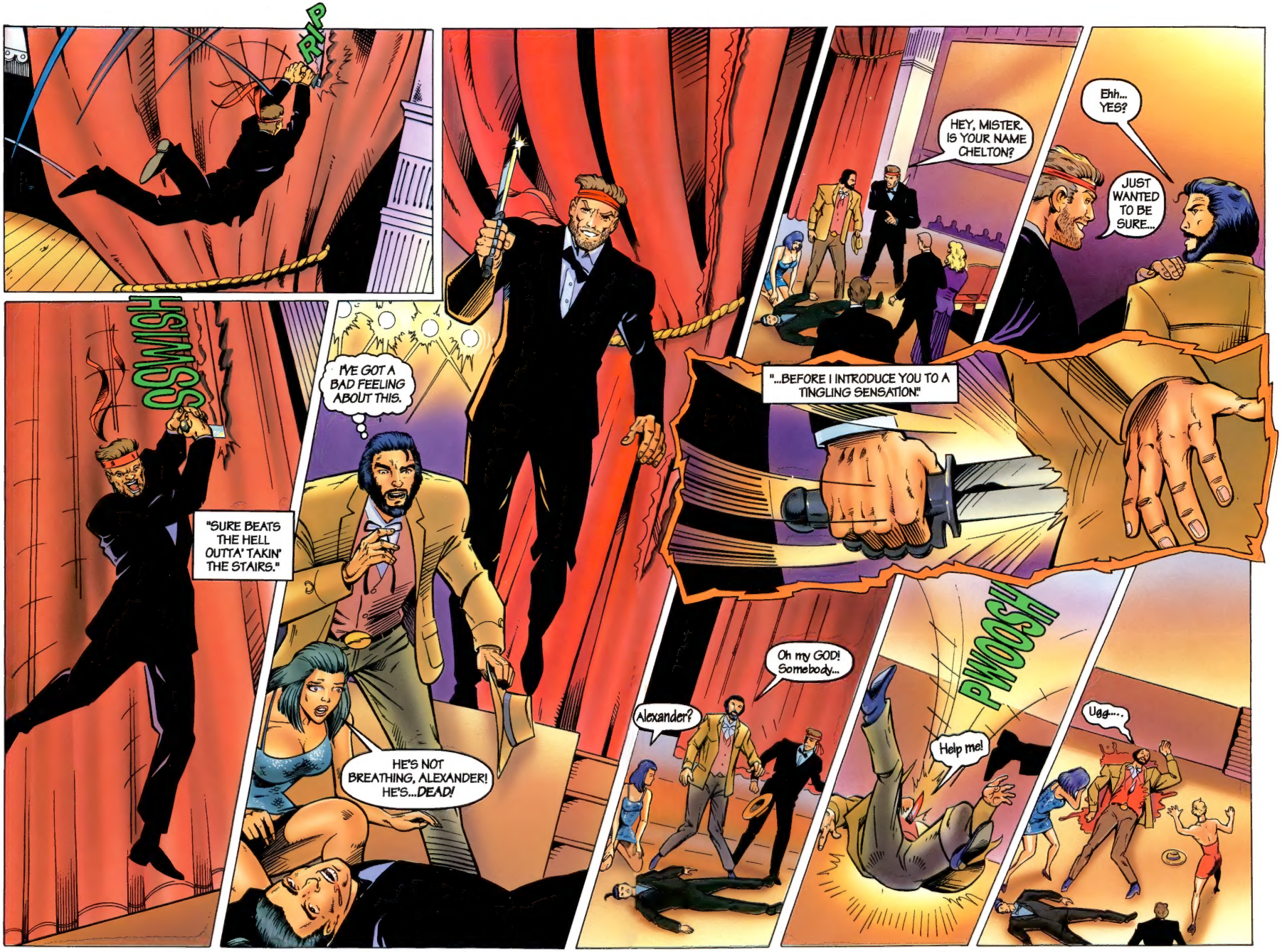
HEY DAVE, THERE'S A GUY IN THE FRONT ROW IN THE WEST BALCONY. SOMETHING ABOUT HIM REALLY BOTHERS ME.
HE LOOKS DIFFERENT THAN THE USUAL CROWD WE SEE HERE. HIS HAIR'S KIND OF RATTY...AND HE LOOKS LIKE HE HASN'T SHAVED IN A COUPLE OF WEEKS. I BET HE SMELLS BAD, TOO. YOU SEE HIM?
YEAH, I SEE HIM. HE LOOKS MORE LIKE HE BELONGS IN A BAR OR A BOWLING ALLEY. I'LL HAVE POPS CHECK HIM OUT...IT'S PROBABLY NOTHIN'.
I'M SURE IT'S NOTHIN', BUT IT'S BETTER TO PLAY IT SAFE. TELL POPS I'LL KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR HIM, JUST IN CASE.
I'LL RELAY THE MESSAGE.
AC/DC

EXCUSE ME, SIR. MAY I HAVE A WORD WITH YOU?
YEAH. WHAT IS IT? CAN'T YOU SEE HOW MUCH I'M ENJOYIN' LISTENIN' TO THE FAT LADY CROAKIN' HER GUTS OUT?
YES, I'M SURE YOU ARE. DO YOU HOLD SEASON TICKETS...LIKE EVERYONE ELSE IN THE AUDIENCE TODAY?
YOU'VE GOT TO BE FRIGGIN' KIDDIN' ME... OF COURSE I HOLD SEASON TICKETS! ARE YOU HARASSING ME?!
SIR, I'M JUST TRYING TO DO MY JOB. AND WHAT IS YOUR LAST NAME?
STARZE? HMM. LET ME SEE. THIS IS A LIST OF ALL THE SEASON TICKET HOLDERS AND I'M SORRY TO SAY...I DON'T SEE ANY STARZE.
THE NAME IS STARZE!
BRAM!
I BET YOU DO NOW!
THAT ISN'T SEAN PEN, IS IT?!?
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE MUFFY!
THUMP

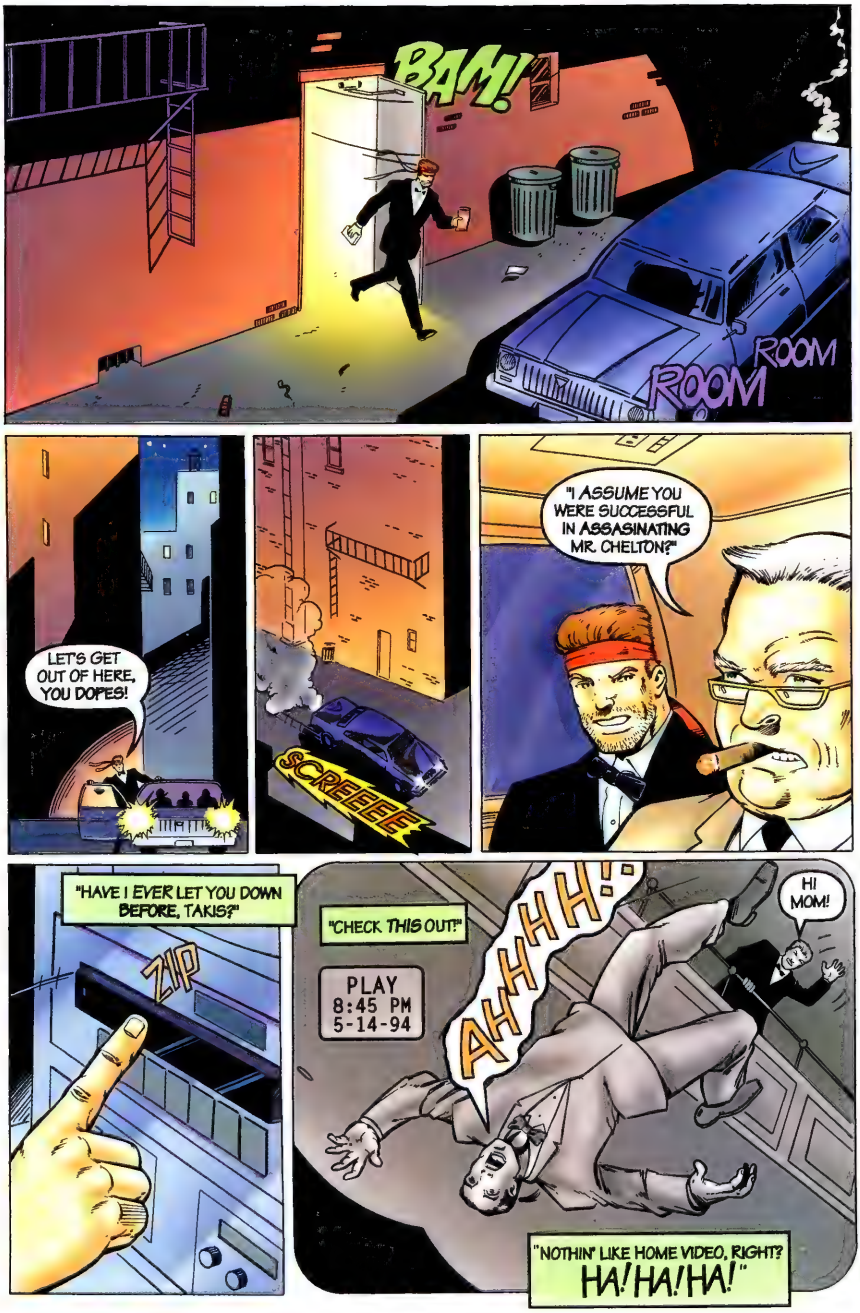
THAT GUY'S NUTS!
I'M OUTTA' HERE!
HEY!
WHY IS EVERYBODY LEAVIN'? THE SHOW'S JUST GETTIN' STARTED?! DOESN'T ANYBODY ELSE CARE TO DANCE?
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! DAVE! DAVE?!? THERE'S AN EMERGENCY IN THE WEST BALCONY. THAT GUY JUST PUNCHED OUT POPS!
I'M ON MY WAY!

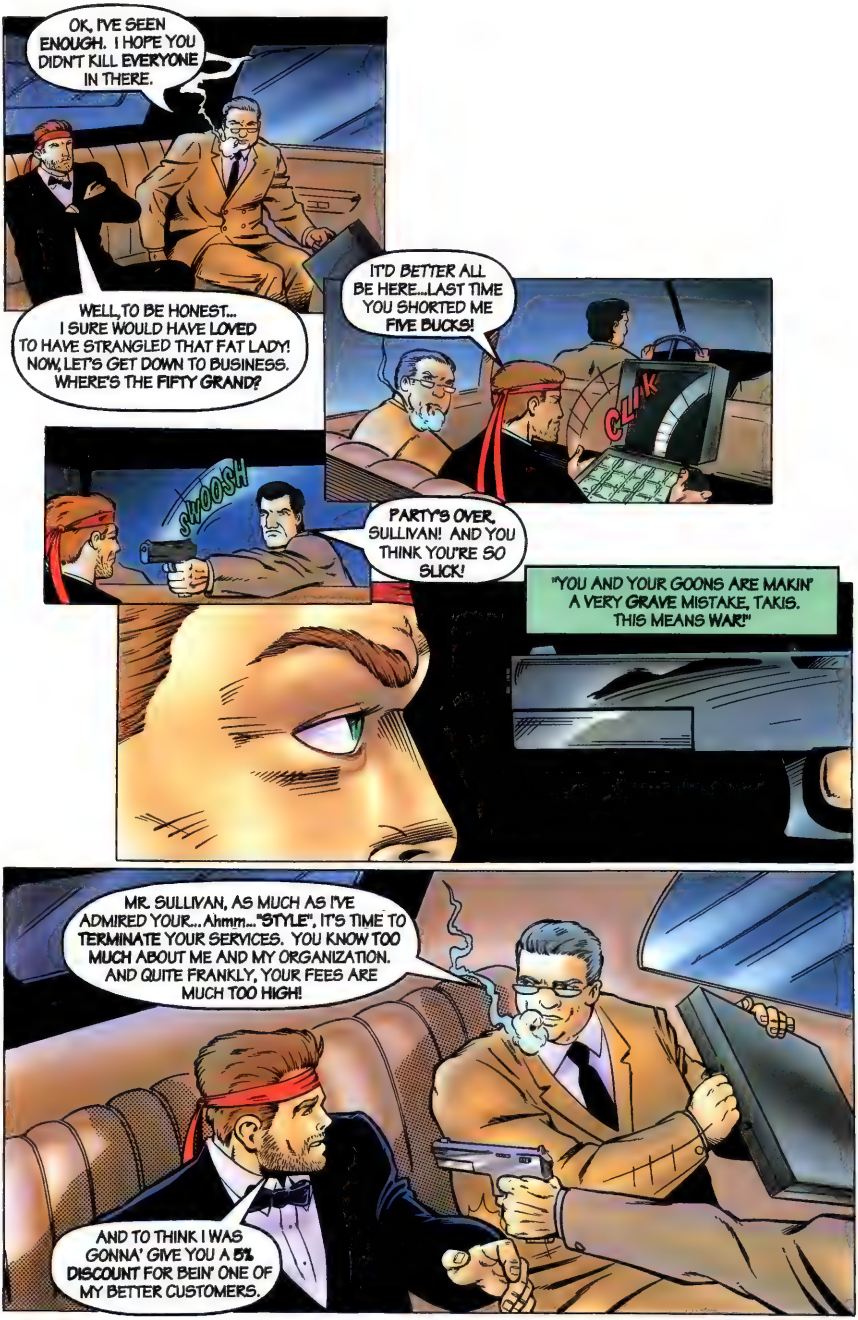

WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM, PAL? WHY DID YOU PUNCH OUT POPS? HE'S ALMOST TWICE YOUR AGE!
I DON'T DISCRIMINATE AGAINST AGE...BABY FACE. NOW, WHY DON'T YOU GET LOST BEFORE I BEND YOU OVER MY KNEE AND GIVE YOUR BUTT A SERIOUS SPANKING!
YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO COME WITH ME, AND DON'T TRY ANYTHING FUNNY. I'M A BLACK BELT IN TAE KWON DO!
I AIN'T "COMING" WITH YOU ANYWHERE! NOW SCRAM...BEFORE I LOSE MY TEMPER!
DON'T UNDERESTIMATE ME. I'M CAPABLE OF INFLICTING GREAT PHYSICAL PAIN!
PFF
TAE KWON DO MASTERS HAVE TAUGHT ME THE SECRETS OF POWER BLOCKING...
SHHHH
...AND HOW TO PUNCH THROUGH STACKS OF BRICKS!
TWISH

AHYHH!!
THUMP
TOO BAD TAE KWON SCHMOE DIDN'T TEACH YOU HOW TO FLY!
HELLO, DETROIT 911.
HELLO POLICE?! THIS IS THE GRAND DEMONIS OPERA HOUSE ON 58TH AND SCHAFER. WE'VE GOT A MAJOR EMERGENCY--A LUNATIC IS ON A KILLING SPREE... GET HERE QUICK!
Ahhh. NOW THAT'S BETTER. I FELT NAKED WITHOUT MY BANDANNA.
"THINGS AREN'T GOIN' EXACTLY THE WAY I'D PLANNED. I'D BETTER GET ON WITH THE JOB BEFORE SOMEONE ELSE GET'S STUPID."


RIP
HSSWSS
"SURE BEATS THE HELL OUTTA' TAKIN' THE STAIRS."
I'VE GOT A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS.
HE'S NOT BREATHING, ALEXANDER! HE'S...DEAD!
HEY, MISTER. IS YOUR NAME CHELTON?
Ehh... YES?
JUST WANTED TO BE SURE...
"...BEFORE I INTRODUCE YOU TO A TINGLING SENSATION."
Alexander?
Oh my GOD! Somebody...
PWOOSH
Help me!
Ugg....

"JUST ONE MORE QUICK STOP BEFORE I'M OUTTA' HERE."
EXIT
SKRASH
YOU DIDN'T THINK I KNEW ABOUT THE SURVEILLANCE ROOM?!?
PLEASE, MR....DON'T HURT ME!
SHUT UP, YOU GEEK! I WANT THE VIDEO RECORDING YOU MADE OF ME...
...NOW HAND IT OVER!
NO PROBLEM! ANYTHING YOU WANT...
...HERE IT IS!
YOU'RE A SMART KID...BUT YOU NEED A HAIRCUT! SEE YA LATER.
OH YEAH...I ALMOST FORGOT THE MAIN REASON I CAME HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE...
PLEASE...DON'T KILL ME. I WON'T TELL ANYONE! I'M ONLY 18 YEARS OLD. I'VE GOT MY WHOLE LIFE AHEAD OF ME!
...GIMMIE THE CHEETOZ!
?!?


BAM!
ROOM
ROOM
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE, YOU DOPES!
SCREEEE
"I ASSUME YOU WERE SUCCESSFUL IN ASSASINATING MR. CHELTON?"
"HAVE I EVER LET YOU DOWN BEFORE, TAKIS?"
ZIP
"CHECK THIS OUT!"
PLAY
8:45 PM
5-14-94
AHHHH!
HI MOM!
"NOTHIN' LIKE HOME VIDEO, RIGHT?
HA!HA!HA!"


OK, I'VE SEEN ENOUGH. I HOPE YOU DIDN'T KILL EVERYONE IN THERE.
WELL, TO BE HONEST... I SURE WOULD HAVE LOVED TO HAVE STRANGLED THAT FAT LADY! NOW, LET'S GET DOWN TO BUSINESS. WHERE'S THE FIFTY GRAND?
IT'D BETTER ALL BE HERE...LAST TIME YOU SHORTED ME FIVE BUCKS!
CLUNK
SHOOSH
PARTY'S OVER, SULLIVAN! AND YOU THINK YOU'RE SO SLICK!
"YOU AND YOUR GOONS ARE MAKIN' A VERY GRAVE MISTAKE, TAKIS. THIS MEANS WAR!"
MR. SULLIVAN, AS MUCH AS I'VE ADMIRED YOUR... Ahmm... "STYLE", IT'S TIME TO TERMINATE YOUR SERVICES. YOU KNOW TOO MUCH ABOUT ME AND MY ORGANIZATION. AND QUITE FRANKLY, YOUR FEES ARE MUCH TOO HIGH!
AND TO THINK I WAS GONNA' GIVE YOU A 5% DISCOUNT FOR BEIN' ONE OF MY BETTER CUSTOMERS.

TWO MINUTES LATER ON THE EAST SIDE OF DETROIT.
GET OUT OF THE CAR, SULLIVAN. NICE AND SLOWLY!
IT'S BEEN REAL NICE KNOWIN' YOU, SULLIVAN...YOU AND YOUR MOTHER! NOT!! HA! HA! HA!
DON'T SHOOT HIM, YOU MORONS! IT'LL MAKE TOO MUCH NOISE!
USE A BLADE!
I'LL HOLD HIM!
NIGHTY NIGHT, WAR PARTY!

HOLD STILL, YA BASTARD!
WHAT...AN' LET YOU KILL ME? SORRY...
CLICK
...I'VE GOT OTHER PLANS!
AHHH!
HEY! BE CAREFUL WITH THAT KNIFE!
WHAP!
TWAK
"YOU MIGHT HURT YOURSELF!"
HEY, DID YOU SEE WHAT HE JUST DID?
NO! NO!
WELL YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN WATCHING!
GET MY POINT!?
SPLAT
MRGH!

YOU DISAPPOINT ME, TAKIS, BUT AMAZINGLY THINGS APPEAR TO BE WORKING OUT FOR THE BEST. I BET YOU'LL NEVER GUESS WHO MY NEXT HIT IS? SURPRISE! THAT'S RIGHT, MR. T...YOU'RE IT!
PLEASE SULLIVAN! I'LL GIVE YOU ANYTHING YOU WANT! DON'T KILL ME!
ALL I WANT IS TO DO MY JOB! SAY...THAT TIE YOU'RE WEARING LOOKS A LITTLE TIGHT AROUND YOUR FAT NECK! WHY DON'T I LOOSEN IT UP FOR YOU?!
I'M SORRY...DID I SAY LOOSE? I MEANT NOOSE!
GHACK!
auhhh..
"GUESS THAT JUST ABOUT EVENS THE SCORE."

OH YEAH...
"...ONE MORE Little THING."
Heh heh heh.
NOW WE'RE EVEN.
HA! HA! HA!
FLIP

ZIP
CLICK
"THERE'S NOTHIN' LIKE CHEE-TOZ AND ACDC! THANKS KID!"
I'M ON THE HIGHWAY TO HELL!
CRUNCH! CRUNCH!
Chee-toz
BRAND
HOLD ON TO YOUR HATS! WAR PARTY #1
THE WILDEST NEW MONTHLY SERIES FROM LIGHTNING COMICS DEBUTS IN JULY!
DON'T BE LEFT IN THE DARK!

On the trail of DREADWOLF...

From the pages of Bloodfire #2:

In a misguided attempt to advance his own professional career, military Doctor Cornelius Thorpe intentionally injected marine, Brian Reace (a.k.a. Bloodfire), with A.I.D.S. infected blood and an experimental drug known as the "Immuno - Enhancement Formula". Dr. Thorpe's intent was to create a physically enhanced super-soldier. While Reace gained super-strength, agility and stamina, he also became a carrier of the deadly A.I.D.S. virus, which is currently kept in check by the I.E. formula. Reace discovered that when his blood came in contact with oxygen, it burst into flames (hence the name, Bloodfire)!

From the pages of Bloodfire #3 and #4:

The military granted Dr. Cornelius Thorpe permission to continue his super-soldier experiments, unaware that Thorpe injected Brian Reace with A.I.D.S. tainted blood. Thorpe selected five volunteer marines to become his next "test subjects" and receive injections of modified I.E. formulas. The the idea of becoming a super-soldier like Bloodfire. The new variations did not require a pre-injection of A.I.D.S. infected blood in order to be accepted by the human immune system. Douglas Patrick Reagan was among the five volunteers.

After Dr. Thorpe injected Reagan with a modified version of the I.E. formula, Reagan unexpectedly transformed into a blood-thirsty werewolf! Bloodfire and the four other volunteers (who gained super powers) cornered Reagan's altered form on the deck of the aircraft carrier where they were stationed. The rampaging werewolf jumped overboard and disappeared into the moonlit ocean waters off the coast of South America.

IN ANOTHER PART OF THE MED LAB...
YOU'VE EACH RECEIVED DIFFERENT VARIATIONS OF THE SAME SUPER ENHANCEMENT FORMULA GIVEN TO SPECIAL AGENT REACE. WE'RE NOT YET SURE WHAT THE EFFECTS WILL BE.
EXCUSE ME, DR. THORPE...
BUT, DON'T FEEL TOO GOOD
HARROOOOOO
HOLY @#$*!!

BLOODFIRE #3

BLOODFIRE #4

PERG #1

From the pages of PERG #1 and #2:

Reagan continued his rampage as a werewolf in the jungles of South America. Rumors circulated about "the beast that eats men" among people living in the area. Eventually, a group of villagers set out to find and destroy the deadly creature. As night turned into day, Reagan returned to his human form. Hearing the villagers in close pursuit, and remembering the violent crimes he committed as a werewolf, Reagan continued to run . . . which led him to the home of the Forest Nymph, where he hid from the angry mob.

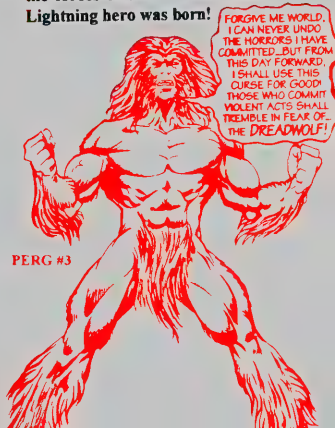
The Forest Nymph, a mystical protector of the rain-forest, telepathically interrogated Reagan and discovered he carried "the curse of the DreadWolf!" Knowing of only one being capable of taming his savage alter identity, the Forest Nymph teleported Reagan to Chicago.

From the pages of PERG #3:

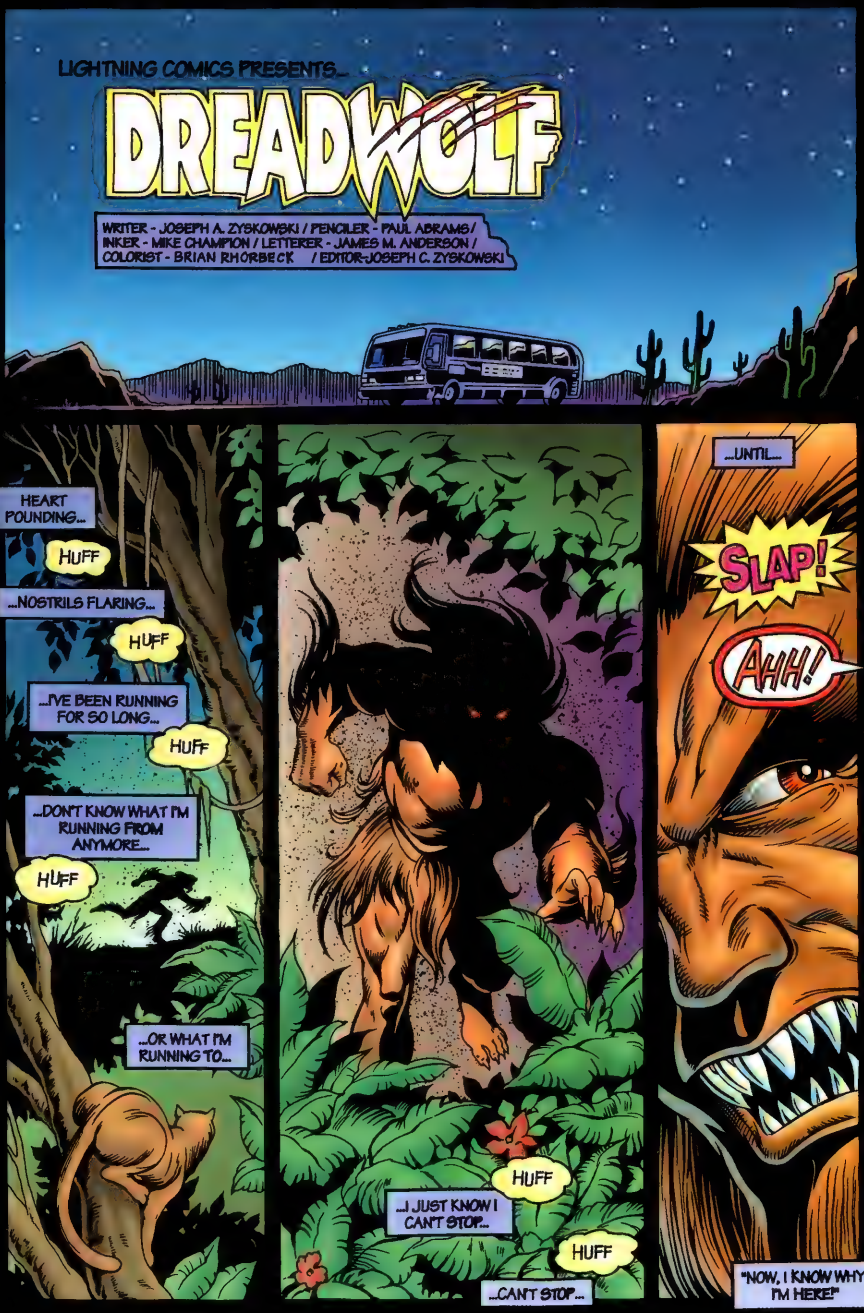
While in Chicago, Reagan again transformed into DreadWolf and battled the supernatural vigilante . . . PERG! PERG was eventually successful cleansing DreadWolf of his evil, which allowed Reagan's human mind to gain control of his DreadWolf body. Reagan vowed that he would use his DreadWolf powers to fight the forces of evil . . . and a new Lightning hero was born!

I'VE DONE TERRIBLE THINGS... BUT IT WASN'T ME!
I MEAN, I DIDN'T MEAN TO KILL THEM... I DIDN'T WANT TO...
IT'S JUST... I COULDN'T HELP MYSELF! I KNOW I MUST SOUND LIKE A NUT, BUT I'M NOT...!
I'M NOT DANGEROUS NOW!
YOU HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR... REALLY!

PERG #2


FORGIVE ME WORLD. I CAN NEVER UNDO THE HORRORS I HAVE COMMITTED...BUT FROM THIS DAY FORWARD I SHALL USE THIS CURSE FOR GOOD! THOSE WHO COMMIT VIOLENT ACTS SHALL TREMBLE IN FEAR OF... THE DREADWOLF!

PERG #3


LIGHTNING COMICS PRESENTS...
DREADWOLF
WRITER - JOSEPH A. ZYSKOWSKI / PENCILER - PAUL ABRAMS / INKER - MIKE CHAMPION / LETTERER - JAMES M. ANDERSON / COLORIST - BRIAN RHORBECK / EDITOR-JOSEPH C. ZYSKOWSKI
HEART POUNDING...
HUFF
...NOSTRILS FLARING...
HUFF
...I'VE BEEN RUNNING FOR SO LONG...
HUFF
...DON'T KNOW WHAT I'M RUNNING FROM ANYMORE...
HUFF
...OR WHAT I'M RUNNING TO...
HUFF
...I JUST KNOW I CAN'T STOP...
HUFF
...CAN'T STOP...
...UNTIL...
SLAP!
AHH!
"NOW, I KNOW WHY I'M HERE!"

I SAW WHAT YOU DID TO CORRIGAN, YOU LITTLE WITCH! YOU'D BEST SET 'IM FREE! YA' HEAR ME, WOMAN?! SET 'IM FREE!
Snap!
WHA?! HOLY MARY, MOTHER OF GOD, PROTECT ME!
GERRRRRRR
"MY BODY ONCE HOUSED THE RAW, CARNAL SAVAGERY OF THE DREADWOLF!"
"I WAS HELPLESS TO STOP THE TRANSFORMATIONS...HELPLESS TO STOP THE KILLING...UNTIL MY BODY WAS CLEANSED OF EVIL."
"MY HUMAN MIND GAINED CONTROL OF MY TRANSFORMATIONS, AND OF MY ACTIONS AS WELL."
"I VOWED TO USE MY DREADWOLF POWERS TO PROTECT THE INNOCENT. THAT IS WHY I'M HERE!"
SEE PERG #3 FOR DETAILS! --JOE.

"I GUESS SOME HABITS ARE HARD TO BREAK."
RIIPP!
YE-AAGH!

"I HEAR A RUSTLING SOUND ABOVE ME..."
MY GOD, IT'S TRUE! THE BEAST EXISTS!
"THE WOMAN'S TOUCH IS INTOXICATING! I'M IN HEAVEN!"
"I CAN SEE HER SPEAK, BUT CAN'T QUITE UNDERSTAND THE WORDS."
YES, CORRIGAN, DREADWOLF'S EXISTENCE IS AS UNDENIABLE...AS DEATH ITSELF!

"THE WOMAN PETS MY FOREARM AND I AM SOOTHED BY HER TOUCH."
BEWARE THE HUNTER OF MEN, MY DREADWOLF...
"I FEEL STRANGELY WARM AND CONTENT, AS A TINGLING SENSATION ENCOMPASSES MY ENTIRE BODY."
"...HIS SOLE PURPOSE FOR EXISTENCE IS TO DESTROY YOU."

Wha?!
HEY, MISTA'! I DROPPED MY COMIC BOOK! COULD YA' GET IT FOR ME?
YEAH, SURE KID.
PERC
"GUESS IT WAS ALL JUST A DREAM! PRETTY WEIRD!"
BLOODFIRE?! Humph!
SINCE SECURITY CAMERAS CAUGHT HIM SAVING THE PRESIDENT'S LIFE, HE'S BECOME A NATIONAL HERO! NOW HE'S EVEN GOT HIS OWN COMIC BOOK?!
SOME GUYS HAVE ALL THE LUCK!
BLOODFIRE
BANG BANG
EXPLOSIVE DEBUT ISSUE!
SEE BLOODFIRE #7 FOR DETAILS! — JOE.
HERE YA GO KID. TAKE CARE OF IT...SOMEDAY IT MIGHT BE WORTH SOMETHING!
YEAH...RIIIGHT!
PERC

DON'T MISS THE DRAMATIC FIRST ISSUE OF,

DREADWOLF!

RESERVE YOUR COPIES TODAY!

TALON

novus